

WHITE HOUSE SUMMIT ON MALARIA POSSIBLE Q&A FOR SURROGATES

Q: Why are President and Mrs. Bush hosting the White House Summit on Malaria?

- On December 14, 2006 in Washington, DC, President and Mrs. Bush are hosting a White House Summit on Malaria to bring together international experts, corporations and foundations, African civic leaders, and faith-based organizations.
- The Summit will help raise awareness of the issue of malaria, and mobilize a grassroots effort to save millions of lives in Africa and give African children the gift of growing up.
- The Summit will also highlight the efforts by multilateral institutions, international partners, and private sector organizations to fight malaria, including Malaria No More, a non-profit organization, which is helping to mobilize new private sector support.

Q: What is Malaria No More and how are they helping in the effort to eliminate malaria?

- Malaria No More is an inclusive, grassroots movement to engage individuals and private sector institutions globally in supporting a comprehensive approach to control malaria. Most simply, Malaria No More wants to work to save the lives of African children.
- A non-profit organization founded in 2006 by leading non-governmental organizations, including UNICEF; the American Red Cross; the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; the Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria; Millennium Promise; the United Nations Foundation; and United Way of America -- Malaria No More is mobilizing corporations and foundations; churches, synagogues and mosques; non-governmental and non-profit organizations; schools and sports teams; and communities and individuals, especially young people.
- Malaria No More has assembled top science and health advisors and a board of directors from leading institutions working to control malaria. Malaria No More is also working closely with the President's Malaria Initiative and with key multilateral and international institutions, such as UNICEF, the World Health Organization, the World Bank, and the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Malaria No More will demonstrate the power of public-private partnerships.
- Malaria No More's website can be founded at: www.malarianomore.org.

Q: Why is it important to fight malaria in Africa? How does malaria affect Africans?

- Malaria is an emergency for Africa:
 - Malaria claims 1.2 million lives every year, mostly in Africa.
 - Malaria kills 3,000 children in Africa every day.
 - One child dies in Africa every 30 seconds from malaria.
 - About one million infants and children under five in sub-Saharan Africa die each year from the mosquito-borne disease.
- The disease is especially devastating for those who are already vulnerable: children, pregnant women, and people infected with HIV/AIDS.
- Malaria has an enormous economic impact as well. Malaria makes workers weak and fills hospitals; it is estimated that malaria will make Africa 20 percent poorer than otherwise over the next 10 years if nothing is done. Impoverished nations and discontented peoples are also more likely to fall prey to conflict.
- The disease costs Africa \$12 billion a year -- an estimated 1 to 2 percent of the entire continent's gross domestic product (GDP).

Q: What is the President's Malaria Initiative (PMI)?

- Led by President Bush, PMI is a five-year, \$1.2 billion program to fight malaria in 15 of the hardest-hit countries. The initiative aims to cut malaria-related deaths by 50 percent in these 15 focus countries in Africa.
- President Bush's commitment of an additional \$1.2 billion over five years is unprecedented in the fight against malaria.
- The goals of PMI are ambitious:
 - Reduce by 50 percent the number of deaths from malaria in 15 target countries by reaching 85 percent of the most vulnerable groups — children under 5 years of age and pregnant women — with proven and effective prevention and treatment measures.
- Under the President's leadership, PMI is a multi-agency, U.S. Government partnership headed by the U.S. Agency for International Development. The PMI works with host countries and in coordination with international partners, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), faith-based and community groups, and the private sector.

Q: What has PMI accomplished?

- Within six weeks of the President Bush's announcement in June 2005, PMI fielded teams to the first focus countries -- Angola, Tanzania, and Uganda -- to

provide long-lasting mosquito nets and anti-malarial drugs and to help these countries conduct mosquito-spraying programs.

- Within six months, high-impact activities were launched in all three Phase I countries. In Angola, the PMI supported an indoor residual spraying program that reached nearly 600,000 persons. In Zanzibar, the PMI distributed 130,000 long-lasting, insecticide-treated nets. In Uganda, the PMI procured and began distributing 260,000 insecticide-treated nets.
- After nine months of implementation, the PMI supported malaria prevention or treatment programs that reached more than 6 million people.
- In June 2006, Mrs. Laura Bush announced the United States will partner with four more focus countries – Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, and Senegal.
- A series of highly effective programs are scheduled for launch over the next several months that are designed to reach up to six million more people.
- PMI is filling a global leadership role in the fight against malaria in an effort to save millions of lives of Africa and give African children the gift of growing up.

Q: What are the PMI focus countries?

- Current PMI countries are Angola, Tanzania, Uganda, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda and Senegal.
- President Bush will announce additional new focus countries on December 14 at the White House Summit on Malaria.

Q: How are the PMI focus countries selected?

- Countries selected have a high burden of malaria, the political will to commit to malaria reduction, a willingness to partner with the U.S. Government and national malaria control policies and practices consistent with those recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO).
- In other words, PMI works with those countries where it can potentially make a difference.

Q: How are public/private partnerships currently working in the fight against malaria?

- Mobilizing private sector support is a key component in controlling malaria in Africa. Public-private partnerships enable the U.S. Government and its partners to maximize their effectiveness and support a comprehensive approach to control malaria.

- When governments partner with NGOs, corporations and foundations, faith-based and service organizations and private citizens, the combined effort can save lives, educate the public about malaria and send a global message.
 - Example: In Zanzibar, malaria was greatly reduced among children under age 5 after new U.S. and other assistance began, according to local health officials.
 - Malaria cases dropped 87 percent in 5 major hospitals on Zanzibar Island.
 - The number of confirmed malaria cases on Pemba Island dropped 87 percent from January to September in 2006 to 1,570 down from 12,531 over the same period last year, according to local health reports.
 - During that time, The President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) partnered with the Zanzibar Malaria Control Program (ZMCP), and the Global Fund to fight Malaria, HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis (GFATM) to distribute 230,000 insecticide-treated bednets on the island. The distribution of insecticide treated bednets is part of a multi-pronged approach to combat malaria on Zanzibar.
 - Amazingly, this drop occurred before the PMI conducted a mass 54-day Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS) program on Unguja and Pemba – the islands that make up Zanzibar. According the ZMCP statistics, over 91 percent of targeted households were sprayed, protecting over a million people.

Q: What can we do to grow this at the grassroots level? What can we do to help?

- A group of elementary and middle school students in Washington have made Malaria No More a focus of their learning and charity for the 2006-2007 school term. The older students researched facts about malaria in their science classes, learned about Sub-Saharan Africa in their social studies classes, wrote grade-specific lesson plans for grades K-6, and taught younger students about malaria and the need for bednets in Africa.
- Middle school and high school student council groups can organize brainstorming sessions on ways to raise awareness about malaria and support for bednets, and then implement those project ideas at their school.
- University students can hold town hall meetings, parties, concerts, and other events to raise support for bednets through Malaria No More.
- One American with just \$10 can help save a life in Africa. A school, a church, or a team can save a village. Together, Americans can help protect an entire continent.

- Powerful grassroots movements can raise awareness of malaria, and highlight ways that organizations and individuals can get involved in combating this preventable disease in Africa.
- With new enthusiastic efforts from Malaria No More and other organizations, America's corporations and foundations, non-governmental and non-profit organizations, individuals and America's young people are being challenged to save lives and build a bridge between peoples.

Q: What methods/treatments are used to combat malaria in focus countries? Isn't DDT used? Are these methods safe?

- PMI is a comprehensive and sustainable approach to saving lives that includes an emphasis on life-saving commodities.
- Methods include:
 - Purchase and distribution of medicines for treatment
 - Distribution of medicines for prevention of malaria in pregnancy
 - Distribution of long-lasting insecticide-treated bednets to prevent insect bites and to kill mosquitoes
 - Indoor spraying with insecticides to kill mosquitoes
- Practically, this means:
 - New effective drugs like artemisinin (ar-tuh-miss-in-in) combination therapies (ACTs) reach rural clinics in countries, replacing failing treatments;
 - Long lasting insecticide-treated bednets reach the most vulnerable people, like pregnant women and children;
 - Indoor residual spraying is again a frontline tool to fight malaria.
- Use of DDT:
 - USAID adheres to strict environmental guidelines, approval processes, and procedures for the use of DDT and all other WHO-approved insecticides in its malaria control programs.
 - The use of DDT for indoor spraying (IRS) is very different from the massive agricultural applications that led to the ban of DDT in the United States and other countries, both in terms of the amounts of insecticide used and the potential risks to the environment.
 - If used correctly for this purpose, it poses no known risk to human health.

Q: What organizations are partnering with PMI?

- The President's Malaria Initiative supports national malaria control programs and strategies in collaboration with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and

Malaria; the World Health Organization; nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and other donors and organizations.

Q: PMI is a noble endeavor, but many critics say that the U.S. should be giving more to the Global Fund – how do you respond?

- The PMI provides a critically needed complement to the Global Fund.
- The United States has dedicated almost half a billion dollars to ending malaria already through our contributions to the Global Fund.
- The PMI also works hand-in-hand with Global Fund recipients to deliver high impact malaria interventions in target countries.
- Both types of support are needed to combat malaria in highly affected African countries.